

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) Process for producing hollow bodies, in which a segment of a plastic tube is placed in a cavity of a blow molding tool arrangement by an extruder head in a definable cycle, the plastic tube is inflated via a blowing mandrel by overpressure according to a blow molding cavity, and the hollow body is removed from a mold of the blow molding tool arrangement, wherein the plastic tube is continuously held during the entire extrusion and blowing cycle on opposing sides of the blow molding tool arrangement; and

wherein the plastic tube is continuously extruded such that after transfer of the extruded plastic tube to the blow molding cavity and during a blowing process, a relative distance between the extruder head and the blow molding tool arrangement is increased.

2. (Previously Presented) Process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the plastic tube after inflation of the hollow body is separated on a side of the blow molding tool arrangement facing away from the extruder head.

3. (Previously Presented) Process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the blow molding tool arrangement relative to a direction of motion of the plastic tube is located between the extruder head and the blowing mandrel which is configured for transport,

for inflation of the plastic tube, into a mouth of a blow molding cavity which is located on the side of the blow molding tool arrangement facing away from the extrusion nozzle.

4. (Previously Presented) Process as claimed in claim 3, wherein for each blow molding cavity there are two or more blowing mandrels which are transported in alternation into the blow molding cavity.

5. (Previously Presented) Process as claimed in claim 4, wherein for the blow molding cavity there are two or more blowing mandrels which are mounted on a central blowing mandrel support such that they are used in succession by rotation of the blowing mandrel support.

6. (Previously Presented) Process as claimed in claim 4, wherein each blowing mandrel is provided with a calibration means with which an opening of the hollow body is calibrated during the blowing process.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) Process as claimed in claim ~~[[7]]~~ 1, wherein the relative distance is changed by moving the extrusion head away from the blow molding tool arrangement which is essentially stationary with respect to its location.

9. (Currently Amended) Process as claimed in claim ~~[[7]]~~ 1, wherein a change in relative distance takes place with a speed which is greater than or equal to an exit speed of the plastic tube from the extrusion nozzle of the extruder head.

10. (Previously Presented) Process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the extruder head is made as a breaker head with an extrusion nozzle with which the plastic tube is discontinuously ejected into the blow molding cavity of the blow molding tool arrangement and wherein during ejection of the plastic tube a relative distance of the blowing mandrel from the breaker head is increased.

11. (Previously Presented) Process as claimed in claim 10, wherein a rate of change of the relative distance of the blowing mandrel from the breaker head is greater than or equal to an ejection speed of the plastic tube from the extrusion nozzle.

12. (Previously Presented) Process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the plastic tube is inclined relative to its extrusion direction during the production cycle.

13. (Previously Presented) Process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the blow molding tool arrangement comprises at least two mold parts which can be separated from one another, and which are moved for opening and closing the blow molding tool essentially perpendicular to an extrusion direction of the plastic tube out of an open end position into a closed end position and vice versa.

14. (Previously Presented) Process as claimed in claim 1, wherein an extruder head with a multiple extrusion nozzle tool is used, a blow molding tool arrangement is used which is equipped with a corresponding number of blow molding cavities, and there are a number of blowing mandrels.

15. (Previously Presented) Process as claimed in claim 1, wherein a discharge rate of the plastic tube, extruder head motion, blowing mandrel motion, an adjustment motion of a width of the extrusion nozzle and an opening and closing motion of the blow molding tool arrangement are individually adjustable and matched to one another.

16. (Currently Amended) ~~Process~~ A device for producing hollow bodies, especially plastic bottles with comprising: an extruder head which is located in an equipment frame with an extrusion nozzle, a blow molding tool arrangement with a blow molding cavity, ~~[[with]]~~ and at least one blowing mandrel, the extruder head, the blow molding tool arrangement and the at least one blowing mandrel being arranged in an axial relationship and at least one separation means for a plastic tube, wherein on opposing sides of the blow molding tool arrangement there are holding means for the plastic tube and the separation means is located on a side of the blow molding tool arrangement facing away from the extruder head, and an activator with which a relative axial distance between the extruder head and an end face of the blow molding tool arrangement can be adjusted.

17. (Currently Amended) Device as claimed in claim 16, wherein the holding means for the plastic tube are ~~on the one hand the extruder head and on the other hand the blowing mandrel.~~

18. (Previously Presented) Device as claimed in claim 16, wherein the blow molding tool arrangement is located between the extruder head and the blowing mandrel, and the blow molding cavity on a side of the blow molding tool arrangement facing away from the extrusion nozzle has a mouth through which the blowing mandrel can be transported into the blow molding cavity.

19. (Previously Presented) Device as claimed in claim 18, wherein for each blow molding cavity there are two or more blowing mandrels which are transported in alternation into the blow molding cavity .

20. (Previously Presented) Device as claimed in claim 19, wherein the blowing mandrels are mounted on a central blowing mandrel support for use in succession by rotation of a blowing mandrel support.

21. (Previously Presented) Device as claimed in claim 16, wherein each blowing mandrel is provided with a calibration means with which an opening of a hollow body can be calibrated during a blowing process.

22. (Cancelled).

23. (Currently Amended) Device as claimed in claim ~~[[22]]~~ 16, wherein the actuating means are connected to the extruder head.

24. (Previously Presented) Device as claimed in claim 16, wherein the extruder head is made for continuous extrusion of the plastic tube.

25. (Previously Presented) Device as claimed in claim 16, wherein the extruder head is made as a breaker head for discontinuous ejection of the plastic tube, and a distance of at least one blowing mandrel at least with an ejection speed of the plastic tube can be adjusted relative to the blow molding tool arrangement.

26. (Previously Presented) Device as claimed in claim 16, wherein the extruder head has an essentially vertically aligned extrusion nozzle and the blow molding tool arrangement and at least one blowing mandrel are arranged vertically under one another.

27. (Previously Presented) Device as claimed in claim 16, wherein the blow molding tool arrangement comprises at least two mold parts which can be separated from one another and which are moved for opening and closing the blow molding tool essentially perpendicular to an extrusion direction of the plastic tube out of an open end position into a closed end position and vice versa.

28. (Previously Presented) Device as claimed in claim 16, wherein the extruder head has several extrusion nozzles, the blow molding tool arrangement is equipped with a corresponding number of blow molding cavities, and there is a number of blowing mandrels which is one or more times the number of blow molding cavities.

29. (Previously Presented) Process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the hollow bodies are configured as plastic bottles.

30. (Previously Presented) Process as claimed in claim 14, wherein the number of blowing mandrels is one or more times the number of blow molding cavities and the blowing mandrels are configured for transport into mouths of the blow molding cavities for inflating the plastic tubes.